Subject No. 40. Licenses under the Arms Regulation.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The renewal of licenses every year being attended with difficulty, Malnad raiyats may be altogether relieved of the necessity of having to obtain licenses for keeping guns for self-protection and for watching their crops.

Mr. Pilkington of the North Mysore European Planters' Association opposed the appplication for exemption on the ground that peacocks and other animals were being destroyed indiscriminately and that some species had become altogether extinct. He further observed that the present number of arms allowed is quite out of proportion to reasonable requirements.

Reply of Government.—The general exemption asked for cannot be granted. Under Rule 8 licenses issued to inhabitants of Malnad tracts will hold good till they are cancelled or withdrawn subject to payment of prescribed annual fee. The District Magistrate exercises his discretion in regard to granting licenses. In consultation with him, the game birds and animals in respect of which a close season should be observed will be specified in the licenses.

Summary of discussion.—(*b*) The Members of District Fund and Municipal Boards may be exempted altogether from the operation of the Regulation, while poor people may be given licenses, once for all, on condition of the annual license fee being paid along with the kandayam of their lands.

(*c*) Respectable persons such as sowcars and land holders may be exempted from the operation of the Arms Regulation. There is provision in the rules to which it is requested effect may be given.

Reply of Government.—(*b*) & (*c*) Noted for consideration.

Subject No. 41. Raising the pecuniary jurisdiction of Munsiffs.

Summary of discussion.—Munsiffs should be empowered to entertain and dispose of suits of the value of Rs. 2,000 and under.

Reply of Government.—A Draft Regulation for enhancing the pecuniary jurisdiction of Munsiffs is under the consideration of Government.

Subject No. 42. Arguments and judgments to be in Kannada in Munsiffs' Courts.

Summary of discussion.—In all Taluk offices and Munsiffs' Courts, records are kept in Kanarese but arguments are heard and judgments written in English by Munsiffs. It would be convenient for the public if Advocates and Pleaders were required to argue cases and Munsiffs to write judgments in Kanarese.

Mr. Amble Annaiya Pandit of Mysore observed that when English knowing Advocates are engaged they must address the Court in English.

Mr. M. Venkatramaiya of Chitaldrug observed that for a year past there had been much more of talking in English by Judges and native Advocates than before, to the disadvantage of pleaders and suitors not knowing English.

Reply of Government.—Plaints and other pleadings are ordinarily written in Kanarese and depositions of witnesses are also recorded in Kanarese. Translations of judgments will be given if required. When one of the parties or his pleader does not know English, the other party can be required to argue in Kanarese and this seems sufficient.

Subject No. 43. Extradition in Breach of Contract Cases.

Summary of discussion.—Warrants issued in Mysore under the Breach of Contract Act should be made extraditable in British Territory.

NOTE.—The recent decision of the Government of India on the subject was explained.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

Subject No. 44. Compulsory registration of all documents relating to money transactions.

Summary of discussion.—Mortgage deeds and other documents the consideration for which is less than Rs. 100 are not compulsorily registrable. This gives room for the practice of fraud and the creation of false documents. It is desirable that all documents relating to money transactions should be made compulsorily registrable.

Reply of Government.—Noted. The question is one on which opinions differ.

Subject No. 45. Revision of Registration fees.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The fee for the attendance of Sub-Registrars at the residence of executants may be reduced from Rs. 10 to Rs. 5. The present rate is unduly high. Some concession may also be shown to poor people who may be prevented by illness from attending the Sub-Registrar's office personally.

Reply of Government.—The question of reducing the attendance fee will receive special consideration, and the Inspector General of Registration will be asked to favor Government with his views as to what reduction is feasible.

Summary of discussion.—(*b*) Early steps may be taken to revise the scale of Registration fees, which are higher than in British Territory.

(*c*) The reduction of Registration fees on leases of immovable property, (the fee to be levied on the annual income instead of on the aggregate amount secured by the lease during the term specified) is again urged.

(*d*) Registration fees may be reduced on documents evidencing cash transactions.

Reply of Government.—(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*). A general revision of the scale so as to assimilate our rates to the British rates is under consideration.